THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The Communication facilities in rural areas are by and large satisfactory,. While every effort is made to further improve telephone services in rural areas but there are areas where due to reasons such as inadequate road infrastructure, law and order problems, erratic power supply, it has not been possible to improve the services.

(b) Following measures have been taken to improve the telephone services:—

(i) Induction of modern technologies like Wireless in Local Loop, C-DOT/PMP and Satellite Communication in rural areas.

(ii) All rural telephone exchanges have been converted to electronic exchanges.

(iii) For better STD services, reliable transmission media is being provided progressively

(iv) Daily testing of Village Public Telephone (VPTs) from telephone exchanges.

(v) Fromation of core groups in each SSA (Secondary Switching Area) for prompt restoration of VPTs.

(vi) Replacement of telephone instruments having completed expiry period in phased manner.

(vii) Provision of generator set to take care of long duration power break down.

Mobile and fixed phones

2223. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current penetration of mobile and fixed phone service in the country, the details of the players in the telecom sector and the market share of each entity with revenue implications, State-wise;

(b) whether any suggestions have been made to Government to exit from telecom field eventually and to enhance FDI limit from 49 to 74 per cent; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Sir, for grant of Licences for providing Cellular Mobile Telphone Service (CMTS), the country is divided into 24 Service Areas consisting of 4 Metro City Service Areas and 20 Telecom Circle Service Areas; in case of Basic Telephone Service (BTS), there are 21 Service Areas . These Service Areas have been further categorized into category 'A', "B' and 'C' Service Areas and the revenue realized by way of annual Licence fees, apart from entry fee and charges for use of wireless spectrum, is at the rate of 12%, 10% and 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue under the Licence respectively for catgory 'A', 'B' and 'C' Service Areas. Name of the Licensees in the Telecom Service Sector with their respective Service Area, number of subscribers and market share of CMTS and BTS respectively are given in Statements-I and Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement-I

Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS)

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Telecom Circle/ Metro City Service Area of Licence	No. of Subscribers in the Service Area as on 31.10.2002*	Market Share as a percentage of All India Customer Base
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bharti Cellular Limited	Delhi	791637	
		Mumbai	177403	
		Gujarat	45929	
		Maharashtra	88588	
		Tamil Nadu	70742	
		Haryana	35799	
		Kerala	60484	
		Madhya Pradesh	25407	
		Uttar Pradesh (West)	57260	
		TOTAL:	1353249	14.99%

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Sterling Cellular Limited	Delhi	555586	6.16%
3.	BPL Mobile Communi-cations Limited	Mumbai	556871	6.17%
4.	Hutchison Max Telecom Limited	Mumbai	573365	6.35%
5.	Bharti Mobitel Limited	Kolkata	167728	1.86%
6.	Usha Martin Telekom Limited	Kolkata	231719	2.57%
7.	RPG Cellular Services Limited	Chennai	150284	1.67%
8.	Bharti Mobinet Limited	Chennai	180126	2.00%
9.	Aircell Digilink India Limited	Haryana	19643	
		Rajasthan	33064	
		Uttar Pradesh(East)	93383	
		TOTAL:	146090	1.62%
10.	FASCEL Limited	Gujarat	388754	4.31%
11.	Hexacom India Limited	Rajasthan	104306	1.16%
12.	Bharti Mobile Limited	Andhra Pradesh	302896	
		Punjab	176906	
		Karnataka	306718	
		TOTAL:	786520	8.71%
13.	Escotel Mobile Communications Private Limited	Haryana	102371	
		Kerala	245052	
		Uttar Pradesh (West)	218227	
		TOTAL:	565650	6.27%
14.	BPL Moblie Cellular Limited	Maharashtra	195270	
		Kerala	147809	
		Tamil Nadu	155370	
		TOTAL:	498449	5.52%
15.	Idea Cellular Limited	Andhra Pradesh	313394	
		Gujarat	225026	
		Maharashtra	391229	
		TOTAL:	929649	10.30%

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Bharti Telenet Limited	Himachal Pradesh	23879	0.26%
17.	Reliance Telecom (P) Limited	Assam	37675	
		Bihar	136201	
		Orissa	57441	
		Madhya Pradesh	139918	
		Himachal Pradesh	8480	
		North East	6771	
		West Bengal	57683	
		TOTAL:	444169	4.92%
18.	Spice Communication Limited	Punjab	410498	
		Karnataka	200619	
		TOTAL:	611117	6.77%
19.	Aircell Limited	Tamil Nadu	198116	2.19%
20.	Hutchison Essar South Limited	Chennai	40120	
		Andhra Pradesh	44628	
		Karnataka	41395	
		TOTAL:	126143	1.40%
21.	BTA Cellcom Limited	Madhya Pradesh	120370	1.33%
22.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	Delhi	126980	
		Mumbai	107493	
		TOTAL:	234473	2.60%
23.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)	Kolkata	13338	
		Bihar	17952	
		Gujarat	7000	
		Haryana	105	
		Kerala	6032	
		Maharashtra	12270	
		Madhya Pradesh	7174	
		Punjab	446	
		Rajasthan	708	
		Tamil Nadu	6833	
		Uttar pradesh (East)	7364	
		West Bengal	100	
		TOTAL:	79322	0.88%
		GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	9025935	

*As furnished by Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) on behalf of Private operators and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)

Figures of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are as intimated by BSNL

Apart from above the following companies, who have licences, have yet to start Service/are in the process of starting Service, as on 31.10.2002

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Telecom Circle/Metro City Service Area of Licence
1.	Hexacom India Limited	North-East
2.	Idea Cellular Limited	Delhi
3.	Escorts Telcommunications Limited	Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh-East, Himachal Pradesh
4.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	Chennai, Andman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, North East Orissa, Uttar Pradesh-West.
5.	Reliable Internet Services Limited	Kolkata

Statement-II

Basic Telphone Service

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Service Area of Licence of	No. of Subscribers in the Service Area as on 31.10.2002*	Market Share as a percentage of All India Customer Base
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	Andman & Nicobar	34828	
		Andhra Pradesh	3172952	
		Assam	462614	
		Bihar (including Jharkhand)	1270404	
		Gujarat	2915691	
		Haryana	1023566	
		Himachal Pradesh	454452	
		Jammu & Kashmir	243698	
		Karnataka	2689898	
		Kerala	2820161	
		Madhya Pradesh (including Chhatisgarh)	1487464	
		Maharashtra (including Goa but excluding Mumbai)	3740377	

1	2	3	4	5
		North East	307303	
		Orissa	694983	
		Punjab	1992104	
		Rajasthan	1649623	
		Tamil Nadu (including Chennai)	3898759	
		Uttar Pradesh-East and Uttar Pradesh-West	3253796	
		West Bengal (including Kolkata)	2391097	
		TOTAL:	34503770	86.50%
2.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)	Delhi	2134449	
		Mumbai	2443585	
		TOTAL:	4578034	11.64%
3.	Tata Tele Service Limited	Andhra Pradesh	212498	0.53%
4.	Reliance Telecom Limited	Gujarat	161	0.0004%
5.	Hughes Telecom (I) Limited	Maharashtra (Including Goa and Mumbai)	186629	0.47%
6.	HFCL Infotel Limited	Punjab	100800	0.25%
7.	Shyam Telelink Limited	Rajasthan	45379	0.11%
8.	Bharti Telenet Limited	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhatisgarh)	183442	
		Haryana	22097	
		Delhi	20413	
		Karnataka	12410	
		Tamil Nadu (including Chennai)	22549	
		TOTAL:	260911	0.65%
		GRAND TOTAL: (ALL INDIA)	39888182	

Apart from above the following companies have yet to start Service/are in the process of starting Service as on 31.10.2002

Sl.No.	Name of Company	Service Area
1.	Tata Teleservices Limited	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai), Karnataka, Gujarat, Delhi
2.	Reliance Infocom Limited	Andman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar (including Jharkhand) Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerla, Madhya Pradesh (including Chhatisgarh), Maharashtra (including GOA and Mumbai), Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu (including Chennai), Uttar Pradesh-East, Uttar Pradesh-West, West Bengal (including Kolkata), Delhi.

CGHS facility to group A&B officers

2224. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Service Group A&B officers are entitled for CGHS facilities;

(b) if so, the reasons for which 'deemed during deputation' to MTNL they are being compulsorily asked to adopt the medical facility available in MTNL without giving them the option to continue in CGHS; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to allow all such officers of MTNL to opt for CGHS until their absorption and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was no compulsion for Group "A" & "B" officers to adopt the medical facility available in MTNL by the Management of MTNL. With the introduction of MTNL medical scheme for Group "C" & "D" employees of MTNL on their absorption, these Group 'C' & 'D' employees were taken out of the ambit of CGHS. Thereafter, some of